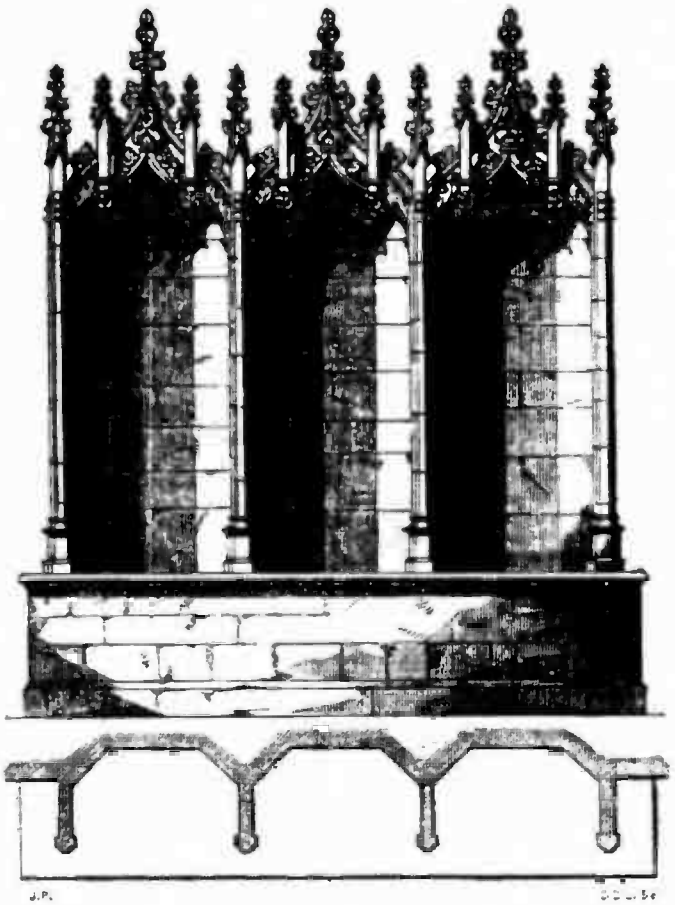
SEDILIA OF COLERNE CHURCH, WILTS.



QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST.

THIS building (an engraving of which is annexed) has been lately erected from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Lanyon, of Belfast, architect.

The total dimensions are—length of principal front, 310 feet; wings, 135 feet; the height of the central tower 98 feet. The residences of the president and vice-president are situated in the south wing. The remainder of the building is altogether devoted to the purposes of the lecture-halls, examination-hall, library, museum, laboratories, &c.

SEDILIA OF COLERNE CHURCH, WILTS.

THE church from which the accompanying sketch of Sedilia is taken has been a singularly beautiful specimen of Early English architecture. The plan is a nave with aisles, chancel, and north chapel, west tower, and south porch. The character and style of the sedilia can be gathered from the engraving: the four-centred arch in the groining is, however, an early example. A portion of the adjoining piscina (Early English) has been cut away to receive the easternmost stall. The restoration of the north chapel and sedilia, and a new roof to the chapel have lately been effected, chiefly through the exertions of the vicar. There remain, however, many abominations that ought to be cleared away. The "pens" in nave and chancel, a "drawing-room gallery," in the north aisle, and an overplus of monuments, which have sadly disfigured the church,—saying nothing of the un-Christian example set forth by their sinful epitaphs. It is our earnest hope that ere long a thorough restoration of this once beautiful church will be effected, so that the congregation may worship "in beauty of holiness, with ordered pomp, decent and unreproved."—E. W. G.

ON THE ASSERTED "SECRET OF ANCIENT PAINTED GLASS."

I HAVE waited in expectation of seeing in your columns a disclaimer from Mr. Forrest of the honour asserted for him by Dr. Nevins, of having discovered as a grand "secret," a method well known to and practised by the veriest tyro in a glass-stainer's shop. The remarks in THE BUILDER were copied into two at least of the Liverpool papers, and must thus have come directly under Mr. Forrest's observation.

To answer Dr. Nevins at length, and in the spirit of the concluding paragraph of his paper, I will follow his remarks throughout, stating thus early that I will, at any time, show Dr. Nevins, or any one not connected with the trade, several examples of the "secret," both ancient and modern.

The modern appearance of cleaned ancient glass is certainly striking, but I demur to the notion that it always arises from the obliteration of the lights and shadows on the reverse. When they are retained the same result obtains. In corroboration of this I would appeal to those who have cleaned ancient glass by such means as would remove extraneous matter only, and would leave intact the glass itself and its paints and enamels.

As to the effect produced by the state of the surface I am unable to speak positively. Ordinary ground glass well exemplifies the great effect produced by the mere alteration of a surface, and I am unable to say whether a great part of the effect of ancient glass is not due to some general alteration or condition of the surface, or that it may not be due to artificial treatment. A very excellent effect can be produced by either method, probably the best by a combination of the two.

The Doctor says, "I have been informed a quantity of *painted* glass was lately made at St. Helen's, Lancashire, by being *cast* upon a sand bed." I suppose the remark must apply to the company I represent. A few weeks ago, I must confess, I should have laughed at *painted* glass being *cast*, but having lately read the specification of Mr. Edwin Pettit's comprehensive patent for making glass, I am now a sadder if not a wiser man. Mr. Pettit not only speaks of the article, but tells us how to make it. He employs a sand bed, though iron is generally used for the purpose. Upon the sand bed he is to paint his ornaments, figures, &c., in vitrifiable colours: the glass is then to be cast upon the painting, which it is expected will leave the table and adhere to the glass. I can fancy Mr. Pettit's alarm should he have read the Doctor's remarks: the idea that his span-new scheme had been tried at St. Helen's must have horrified the patentee. But I can assure both him and Dr. Nevins that *cast painted* glass has never been made in these works, nor is it, so far as I am aware, at all likely to be.

But perhaps Dr. Nevins alludes to a kind of glass (coloured and white) manufactured to a large extent by Messrs. James Hartley and Co. of Sunderland. This glass requires much judgment in introducing it, but is occasionally used to advantage. We manufactured a very small quantity of coloured glass, under peculiar circumstances, in a somewhat similar manner; but, with changing circumstances, we relinquished the manufacture, and procure our supply from the makers. I must corroborate most fully the observations and so-called discoveries of Mr. Forrest, so far as stating for a fact, that a thin, dark coating is spread over the back of the glass, and that lights are taken out of this ground, leaving the glass bright and clear. I assent to and assert this fact as freely as I should the first fact of the multiplication table: it is a very stubborn fact; but I would add that it is exemplified in nearly every window since the fourteenth century and—and here's the rub—in modern ones too.

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